

FEMA REGION V

short notes on planning # 4

WHAT ARE THE PLANNING REQUIREMENTS OF THE FLOOD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE (FMA) PROGRAM?

The FMA program provides funds to communities for pre-disaster mitigation planning and for projects designed to reduce flood damage to insurable structures. The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) funds the program, and projects are limited to structures covered by flood insurance policies.

The flood mitigation planning process is designed to identify and address overall flood problems in the area and to develop strategies for reducing the damage to structures and systems within the community. The planning document should be a vision of what the community wants to accomplish, not just a project overview completed in order to obtain a grant. The mitigation strategy may include both long-term and short-term solutions and may suggest a number of alternatives.

When preparing a plan for FMA approval, the following topics should be covered:

- A description of the planning process and public involvement.
- A description of flood depths and damage potential.
- A description of the existing flood hazard, identification of the flood risk, and a discussion of past floods including appropriate maps.
- Estimates of types and numbers of structures at risk, including available fair market values.
- A discussion of repetitive loss properties and potential mitigation activities including the appropriate maps.
- An assessment of the problem including: the impact of the flooding on infrastructure, public health, and safety; procedures for warning and evacuating residents and visitors; identification of critical facilities; a description of development trends; a summary of flooding's impact on the community and its economy.
- A statement of the community's floodplain management goals
- The strategy (strategies) for reducing floods risk.
- The strategy (strategies) for continued compliance with the NFIP.

- A discussion, including related maps, of other natural hazards that may effect mitigation options).
- A discussion of how the community has coordinated with other agencies and organizations for input and assistance and to insure non-duplication of prevention efforts.
- Identification and evaluation of cost-effective and technically feasible mitigation actions considered.
- Procedures the community is taking to ensure implementation of the plan, including progress reviews and recommended revisions.
- Identification of feasible mitigation actions and their applicability to specific conditions or geographic areas.
- The official ordinance or resolution of adoption of the plan by your community government.
- If submitted by an entity other than a community, documentation of formal interagency agreement.

We encourage you to contact your State Hazard Mitigation Officer for more information regarding reducing flood risk through the Flood Mitigation Assistance program.